

REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance of this application are respectfully requested. Claims 1-10, 12, 14, 16-38, and 41 are cancelled. Claims 11, 13, 15, 39, 40, and 42 are allowed.

Applicant reserves the right to file one or more continuation applications covering the subject matter of the cancelled claims.

In the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 1, 3-6, 9-10, 16, 18-21 24-25, 28, 30-33, and 36-37 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Takeda (U.S. Patent Application Publication No. US 2002/0064180 A1). Claims 1, 3-6, 9-10, 16, 18-21 24-25, 28, 30-33, and 36-37 are cancelled. Accordingly, the withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102 is respectfully requested.

The Examiner also rejected claims 12, 26-27, and 38 under 35 U.S.C. §103(e) as being unpatentable over Takeda. Claims 12, 26-27, and 38 are cancelled. Accordingly, the withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103 is respectfully requested.

The Examiner indicated that claims 11, 13, 15, 39, 40, and 42 are allowed. Applicant expresses appreciation for the allowance of these claims.

In view of the above, each of the presently pending claims in this application is believed to be in immediate condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw the outstanding rejection of the claims and to pass this application to issue. If, however, for any reason the Examiner does not believe that such action can be taken at this time, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner telephone applicant's attorney at (908) 654-5000 in order to overcome any additional objections which the Examiner might have.

Application No.: 09/692,987

Docket No.: SONYJP 3.0-129

If there are any additional charges in connection with this requested amendment, the Examiner is authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 12-1095 therefor.

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Respectfully submitted,

By 

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